

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00439 031451Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SS-15 /106 W

-----040034Z 054780 /12

R 031400Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO SECSTATE 0816
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0439

E.O. 11652: GDS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ALEXAN 00439 031451Z

TAGS: ETRD, BEXP, PFOR
SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT

REF: ALEXANDRIA 0324 (NOTAL)

1. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS POSTPONED MAY MEETING OF ARAB BOYCOTT
COMMISSION WILL NOW CONVENE IN ALEXANDRIA 8 JUNE. REFTEL (WHICH

WE REQUESTED DEPT RPT TO ALL ARAB LEAGUE POSTS) NOTED LOCAL SOURCE VIEW THAT POSTPONEMENT WAS TO PERMIT AL REVIEW OF BOYCOTT STRATEGY, HOPEFULLY IN FAVOR OF MODERATION IN APPLICATION WHEN IT TO OBVIOUS ARAB ADVANTAGE.

2. HOWEVER, VARYING PRESSURES IN INTERVENING MONTH NOW PLACE IN DOUBT CAPACITY OF "MODERATES" TO CONTAIN OR OUTFLANK "HARDLINERS". THESE ELEMENTS INCLUDE:

(A) AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS DIRECTED AGAINST BOYCOTT COMPLIANCE (OR TOLERATION) BY US BUSINESS.

(B) COUNTERATTACK BY "HARDLINERS" TO TAKE ACROSS-THE-BOARD ACTION AGAINST ALL RPT ALL COMPANIES IN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE ANTI-BOYCOTT LAWS.

(C) RECENT INITIATIVES BY CERTAIN BRITISH JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS SEEKING PARLIAMENTARY ANTI-BOYCOTT ACTION SIMILAR TO US INITIATIVES (A ABOVE).

(D) BACKLASH FROM LIKUD/BEGIN ELECTORAL VICTORY IN ISRAEL, PROMPTING "HARDLINERS" TO SEEK EXTRA HARDENING AGAINST ISRAELI "HARDLINER".

3. THOSE SEEKING MODERATION WHEN IN ARAB ECONOMIC BENEFIT STILL HAVE A LOT GOING FOR THEM HOWEVER. RECENT GOE PUBLICIZED DECISIONS IN PRINCIPLE TO APPROVE MAJOR INVESTMENT PROJECTS BY BOYCOTTED FIRMS (FORD, COCA-COLA, XEROX) OBVIOUSLY WITH BACKING FROM HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOE, SHOULD STIFFEN BACKBONES OF EGYPTIAN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ALEXAN 00439 031451Z

BOYCOTT COMMISSIONER AND OTHER MODERATE ARAB GOVERNMENTS WHO AGREE. TOTAL BOYCOTT OF COUNTRIES INSTITUTING ANTI-BOYCOTT LAWS RUNS AGAINST THAT BASIC AND GROWING SELF-INTEREST TREND. PRESIDENT CARTER'S AND OTHER USG STATEMENTS ON OVERALL MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, SINCE LIKUD VICTORY, ARE MAINTAINING OR INCREASING LOCAL INTEREST IN CONTINUING US CONNECTION FOR EVENTUAL (1977) PEACE SETTLEMENT, OR AT LEAST PROGRESS. IN MINDS OF GOE OFFICIALS HERE AND LOCAL BUSINESSMEN, MODERATING ARAB BOYCOTT IS PART OF PROCESS.

4. BOYCOTT COMMISSIONERS' MEETING BEGINNING 8 JUNE MAY WELL GIVE ONE MORE SIGNAL ON TRENDS OF THINKING, SHIFTS HOWEVER SUBTLE IN POSITION OF ARAB LEAGUE AS A DISPARATE WHOLE. THIS WE WILL HOPE TO MONITOR.

5. GIVEN STRICTURES ON DIRECT OFFICIAL CONTACT, WE ARE RELYING ON (A) LOCAL CONGEN EMPLOYEE OF LONG SERVICE, EXCELLENT ECON/ COMMERCIAL/Legal BACKGROUND AND WIDE CONTACT AT HIGH LEVELS, (B) SEVERAL EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES WITH WHOM WE HAVE GOOD UNDERSTANDING, AND (C) SEVERAL LEADING

BUSINESSMEN WITH STRONG US TRADE AND INVESTMENT CONNECTIONS
WHO HAVE THEIR OWN DEEP INTEREST IN PROGRESS AND OUTCOME OF
MEETINGS.

6. PUTTING THIS TOGETHER WITH OUR OWN PRIDE, PREJUDICE AND
PROGNOSTICATION, WE WILL TRY IN COMING DAYS TO ADD A LITTLE
SOMETHING TO DAILY PRESS REPORTS ADDRESSEES WILL BE RECEIVING.
CHASE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, BOYCOTTS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ALEXAN00439
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770199-0296
Format: TEL
From: ALEXANDRIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770695/aaaadfihtel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e5e94086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ALEXANDRIA 324
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2296532
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB BOYCOTT
TAGS: ETRD, BEXP, PFOR, XF, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e5e94086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009